



## Aruba: Island of Aloes



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# Conservative Supreme Court justices appear skeptical of Trump's sweeping unilateral tariffs

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A majority of Supreme Court justices seemed skeptical on Wednesday about President Donald Trump's ability to unilaterally impose far-reaching tariffs, putting at risk a cornerstone of his agenda in the biggest legal test yet of his boundary-testing presidency.

Three conservative justices raised questions about whether an emergency law gives Trump near-limitless power to set and change duties on imports, with potentially trillion-dollar implications for the global economy.

The court's three liberal justices also appeared dubious, so at least two conservative votes could limit Trump's tariff power, though likely not end it altogether. The case is the first major piece of Trump's agenda to come squarely before the nation's highest court, which he helped shape by naming three of the nine justices in his first term.

The conservative majority has so far been reluctant to check his extraordinary flex of executive power in short-term orders in cases ranging from presidential firings to funding cuts.

That could change with a



An American flag flies at half-staff outside the Supreme Court on Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

more detailed ruling in the tariff case, though it will likely take weeks or months to come down.

The Constitution says Congress has the power to levy tariffs. But, in a first, the Trump administration argues that an emergency law allowing the president to regulate importation also includes tariffs.

Justice Neil Gorsuch, though, appeared concerned that could shift too much power to the president on an issue that

helped spark the American Revolution.

"Is the constitutional assignment of the taxing power to Congress, the power to reach into the pockets of the American people, just different?" he asked. "That had to be done locally, through our elected representatives."

Justice Amy Coney Barrett and Chief Justice John Roberts also raised questions about whether the emergency-power law allowed for tariffs on "any product,

from any country, in any amount, for any length of time," as Roberts put it. "The basis for the claim seems to be a misfit," he said.

Trump has called the case one of the most important in the country's history and said a ruling against him would be catastrophic for the economy.

The challengers argue the 1977 emergency powers law Trump used doesn't even mention tariffs, and no president before has used it to impose them.

A collection of small businesses say the uncertainty is driving them to the brink of bankruptcy.

The case centers on two sets of tariffs. The first came in February on imports from Canada, China and Mexico after Trump declared a national emergency over drug trafficking. The second involves the sweeping "reciprocal" tariffs on most countries that Trump announced in April.

Multiple lawsuits have been filed over the tariffs, including a case from a dozen largely Democratic-leaning states and another from small businesses focused on everything from plumbing supplies to women's cycling apparel.

Lower courts have agreed that the tariffs were an illegal use of emergency power.

The Supreme Court has been skeptical of executive power claims before, such as when then-President Joe Biden tried to forgive \$400 billion in student loans under a different law dealing with national emergencies. The Supreme Court found the law didn't clearly give him the power to enact a program with such a big economic impact, a legal principle known as the major questions doctrine. □



A patient receives a Botox injection at a clinic in Arlington, Va., on June 5, 2009.

Associated Press

By MATTHEW PERRONE

AP Health Writer

**Associated Press (AP)** — U.S. health regulators on Wednesday sent warning letters to 18 websites selling counterfeit or unapproved

versions of Botox and similar injectable drugs commonly used to smooth wrinkles.

The Food and Drug Administration said it was taking action after receiving reports of injuries in connec-

## FDA warns websites selling unapproved Botox for cosmetic purposes

tion with the products, including toxic side effects. Botox is a diluted, purified form of botulinum, one of the most toxic substances in the world. The ingredient works by temporarily blocking nerve signals and causing muscles to relax. While most famously approved for cosmetic use, Botox is also approved in the U.S. for a number of medical conditions, including muscle spasms, eye disorders and migraines.

The FDA warning letters mostly went to cosmetic websites. In each case, the FDA said the companies

were offering unofficial or mislabeled versions of Botox-like drugs that haven't been approved by the agency. In addition to the original drug, introduced by Allergan in 1989, the FDA has approved several competing versions.

FDA-approved Botox drugs carry the agency's most serious warning, a boxed label alerting doctors and patients that the medications can cause serious or life-threatening side effects.

In rare cases, the toxin can spread beyond the injection site to other parts of

the body, paralyzing or weakening muscles needed for breathing and swallowing. Signs of botulism include difficulty swallowing or breathing, slurred speech and muscle weakness. Those symptoms can occur several hours after an injection.

In a press release Wednesday, the FDA said patients should only receive the drugs from health professionals who are licensed and trained to administer them. Patients experiencing signs of botulism should "seek immediate medical care," the agency noted. □



# Trump pressures GOP senators to end the government shutdown, now the longest ever

By **LISA MASCARO** and  
**MARY CLARE JALONICK**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump lashed out Wednesday at Senate Republicans to end the government shutdown, now the longest ever, blaming the record-breaking impasse for the party's defeat in closely-watched elections while Democrats emboldened by their off-year victories dug in for a fight.

Trump, whose first term at the White House set the previous government shutdown record, said this one was a "big factor, negative" in Tuesday's races. He repeated his demands for Republicans to end the Senate filibuster as a way to reopen government something senators have refused to do.

Buoyed by their electoral wins, the Democrats also hardened their resolve. The Democratic leaders said it's time for Trump to get serious about negotiating an end to the stalemate. They demanded he get off the sidelines and meet with the congressional leaders to resolve the problem of expiring health care subsidies that are central to the debate.

"The election results ought to send a much needed bolt of lightning to Donald Trump that he should meet with us to end this crisis," said Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York.

Now in its 36th day, the shutdown and its impacts have deepened nationwide. The federal closures are disrupting the lives of millions of Americans with program cuts, flight delays and workers scrambling to make do without paychecks. Officials have warned of a worsening climate to come, including chaos in the skies if the shutdown drags into next week and air traffic controllers miss another paycheck.

**Election results bring an inflection point and fresh filibuster demands**

Expectations were high



**President Donald Trump speaks during a breakfast with Senate and House Republicans in the State Dining Room of the White House, Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025, in Washington.**

**Associated Press**

that the logjam would break once results were tallied in elections that were widely watched as a gauge of voter sentiment over Trump's second term. But Trump's demands Wednesday that Republican senators get rid of the filibuster as a way to end the shutdown complicated an already difficult situation.

"It's time for Republicans to do what they have to do, and that's terminate the filibuster," Trump said during a breakfast meeting Wednesday with GOP senators at the White House.

Trump pushed for ending the Senate rule that requires a 60-vote threshold for advancing most legislation as a way to steamroll the Democratic minority on the shutdown and pass a long list of other GOP priorities. Republicans now hold a 53-47 majority in the Senate, and Democrats have been able to block legislation that would fund the government, having voted more than a dozen times against.

"We must get the government back open soon," Trump told the senators.

That push is likely to go unheeded by Republican senators but could spur them to deal with the Democrats.

## Trump sets another shutdown record

With Trump having stayed out of the shutdown debate, instead keeping a robust schedule of global travel and events, including at his private Mar-a-Lago club in Florida, the talks have intensified among a loose coalition of centrist senators trying to negotiate an end to the shutdown.

Trump has refused to negotiate with Democrats over their demands to salvage expiring health insurance subsidies until they agree to reopen the government. But skeptical Democrats question whether the Republican president will keep his word, particularly after the administration restricted SNAP food aid despite court orders to ensure funds are available to prevent hunger.

Trump's approach to the shutdown stands in marked contrast to his first term, when the government was partially closed for 35 days over his demands for money to build the U.S.-Mexico border wall. At that time, he met publicly and negotiated with congressional leaders. Unable to secure the money, he relented in 2019.

This time, it's not just Trump declining to engage in talks.

The congressional leaders are at a standoff and House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., sent lawmakers home in September after they approved their own funding bill, refusing further negotiations.

A "sad landmark," Johnson said at a new conference Wednesday.

He dismissed the party's election losses and said he is looking forward to a mid-term election in 2026 that will more reflect Trump's tenure.

In the meantime, food aid, child care money and countless other government services are being seriously interrupted. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers have been furloughed or expected to come to work without pay. "Can this be over now?" Thune, R-S.D., said as he returned from the White House breakfast. "Have the American people suffered enough?"

Thune also said there is not support in the Senate to change the filibuster. "It's not happening," he said.

## Senators search for potential deal

Central to any resolution will be a series of agreements that would need to be upheld not only by the Senate, but also the House, and the White House,

which is not at all certain in Washington.

Senators from both parties, particularly the members of the powerful Appropriations Committee, are pushing to ensure the normal government funding process in Congress can be put back on track.

Among the goals is guaranteeing upcoming votes on a smaller package of bills where there is already widespread bipartisan agreement to fund various aspects of government such as agricultural programs and military construction projects at bases.

"I certainly think that three-bill package is primed to do a lot of good things for the American people," said Sen. Katie Britt, R-Ala., who has been in talks.

## Health care costs skyrocket for millions

More difficult, a substantial number of senators also want some resolution to the standoff over the funding for the Affordable Care Act subsidies that are set to expire at year's end.

With insurance premium notices being sent, millions of people are experiencing sticker shock on skyrocketing prices. The loss of enhanced federal subsidies, which were put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic and come in the form of tax credits, are expected to leave many people unable to buy health insurance.

Republicans are reluctant to fund the health care program, also known as Obamacare, without changes, but negotiating a compromise with Democrats is expected to take time, if a deal can be reached at all.

Thune has promised Democrats at least a vote on their preferred health care proposal, on a date certain, as part of any deal to reopen government.

But that's not enough for some senators, who see the health care deadlock as part of their broader concerns with Trump's direction for the country. □



# Chicago daycare worker detained by immigration agents at drop-off time for children

By ELLIOT SPAGAT  
Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — An employee of a Chicago daycare center and preschool was detained by immigration authorities at work as children were being dropped off Wednesday, according to witnesses, reflecting the Trump administration's increasingly aggressive enforcement tactics.

The employee ran from a vehicle into the Rayito de Sol Spanish Immersion Early Learning Center after officers pulled in the parking lot right after her, Alderman Matt Martin said, citing witness accounts. The employee was detained between two glass doors at the entry while telling authorities she has papers, he said. Authorities went inside to question several people around 7 a.m., when the facility opened, according to witnesses.

It was unusual even under "Operation Midway Blitz," which has resulted in more than 3,000 immigration arrests in the Chicago area since early September. Agents have rappelled from a Black Hawk helicop-



**Maria Guzman, left, and Sergio Rocha, parents of young children, comfort each other outside of Rayito de Sol Spanish Immersion Early Learning Center after an employee of the preschool was arrested by federal immigration agents, Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025, in Chicago.**

ter in a middle-of-the night apartment building raid, appeared with overwhelming force in recreational areas and launched tear gas amid protests.

The several officers at Wednesday's arrest wore clothing that read "POLICE ICE," identifying them as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, according to Martin, who

said he gathered information from witnesses. Video circulating online showed at least one officer wore a vest that said "ICE" as the woman was restrained and removed from the building. "ICE law enforcement did NOT target a Daycare. Officers attempted to conduct a targeted traffic stop of this female illegal alien from Colombia," DHS Assistant

Secretary Tricia McLaughlin wrote in a social media post. "Officers attempted to pull over this vehicle, which was registered to a female illegal alien, with sirens and emergency lights, but the male driver refused to pull the vehicle over."

At a news conference Wednesday, U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley said the employee had a work permit and

agents followed her into the school without a warrant.

Rayito de Sol, which operates eight locations in Illinois and Minnesota, did not respond to a request for comment. Following the arrest, its school in Chicago's Roscoe Village closed for the day.

Parents gathered outside the preschool, sandwiched between dental offices in a strip mall, looking angered and dismayed.

Esmeralda Rosales rushed from work as her husband dropped off their 9-month-old child learned to show support for the staff. She said the woman arrested was her child's teacher.

"These are the nicest, kindest people.

They don't deserve, these children don't deserve to be living through this. This is just terrible, terrible, terrible," she said.

Chris Widen, whose 4-month old is taught by the woman who was detained, said the operation came "at the school during the busiest time of drop-off where kids and families have to witness a teacher being forcibly removed and agents kitted up in tactical gear." □

Associated Press

## Mississippi Democrats appear to break Republican supermajority in state Senate

By SOPHIE BATES  
Associated Press

**JACKSON, Miss. (AP)** — Mississippi Democrats appear to have broken a Republican supermajority in the state Senate, claiming victories in two Republican-held districts that were redrawn after a court ruled they should have greater representation for Black voters.

Unofficial county election results show Democrats leading, but vote totals may change as absentee ballots can still be received up to five days after the election. Local election officials have until Nov. 14 to verify county results and pass their totals on to the Mississippi Secretary of State for certification.

The Democratic gains in Mississippi were part of strong performance Tuesday in statehouse elections, as Democrats also expanded their majorities in both the New Jersey As-

sembly and Virginia House. The victories would mean Republicans no longer have a two-thirds majority in the Mississippi Senate when the new lawmakers take office.



**The Mississippi Capitol is seen in Jackson, Miss., on July 6, 2020.**

Associated Press

"Mississippi voters reminded us that change is possible when we show up together," Mississippi Democratic Party Vice Chair Jodie Brown wrote in a statement. "Breaking the supermajority means restoring checks and balances and ensuring that every Mississippian's voice counts in their state government." Republicans had held a two-thirds majority in the Senate since the 2019 elections. They will still have at least a three-fifths majority in the chamber. In Mississippi, a three-fifths majority of the House and Senate is needed to pass tax bills or issue bonds to borrow money. A two-thirds majority in

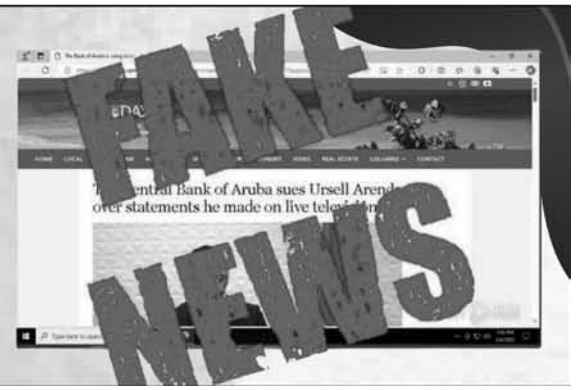
both chambers is needed to approve proposed amendments to the state constitution and override a veto from the governor. The Democrats' gains come after a panel of three federal judges ordered the state to redraw some of its legislative districts, saying the state's 2022 legislative map diluted the power of Black voters. The judges ordered legislators to draw majority Black Senate districts around DeSoto County in the northwestern corner of the state and around Hattiesburg in the south, and a new majority Black House district in Chickasaw and Monroe counties in the northeastern part of the state. □



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Russian President Vladimir Putin chairs a meeting with members of the Security Council in Moscow, Russia, Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

## Putin tells officials to submit plans for possibly resuming nuclear tests after Trump's remarks

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered officials on Wednesday to submit proposals for a possible resumption of nuclear tests in response to President Donald Trump's statements last week that appeared to suggest the U.S. will restart its own atomic tests. Speaking at a meeting with his Security Council, Putin reaffirmed his earlier statement that Moscow will only restart nuclear tests if the U.S. does so first. But he directed the defense and foreign ministries and other government agencies to analyze Washington's intentions and work out proposals for resuming nuclear weapons tests. On Oct. 30, Trump appeared to signal that the U.S. will resume testing nuclear weapons for the first time in three decades, saying it would be on an "equal basis" with Russia and China.

But U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright said Sunday that new tests of the U.S. nuclear weapons system ordered by Trump will not include nuclear explosions. Trump made the announcement on social media while in South Korea, days after Putin announced successful tests of the prospective nuclear-powered and nuclear capable cruise missile and underwater drone. Putin's praise for the new weapons that he claimed can't be intercepted appears to be another message to Trump that Russia is standing firm in its maximalist demands on settling the conflict in Ukraine. The U.S. military also has regularly tested nuclear-capable weapons, but it has not detonated atomic weapons since 1992. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which the U.S. signed but did not

ratify, has been observed since its adoption by all countries possessing nuclear weapons, North Korea being the only exception. Putin in 2023 signed a bill revoking Russia's ratification of a global nuclear test ban, which Moscow said was needed to put it on par with the U.S. The global test ban was signed by President Bill Clinton but never ratified by the U.S. Senate. During Wednesday's Security Council meeting, Defense Minister Andrei Belousov reported to Putin about U.S. efforts to modernize its atomic arsenals, arguing that along with a possible resumption of nuclear tests by Washington they "significantly increase the level of military threats to Russia." Belousov suggested that Moscow immediately start preparations for nuclear tests on the Arctic Novaya Zemlya archipelago. □

## Drone sightings force fresh flight cancellations at Belgium's main airport



A passenger looks at a departures board after several cancellations and delays due to reported overnight drone activity over Brussels International Airport in Zaventem, Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

By LORNE COOK  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Dozens of flights at Belgium's main international airport were canceled on Wednesday after drone sightings overnight forced it to close temporarily, prompting Prime Minister Bart De Wever to convene a meeting with senior ministers to discuss safety concerns.

It was the first time that the airport in Brussels has been shut down by drones. It comes after a series of unidentified drone flights over the weekend near a military base where U.S. nuclear weapons are stored.

Brussels Airport said that 54 flights were canceled as a result of the Tuesday evening shutdown "for safety reasons" and apologized, saying that "the safety of our passengers and staff remains our top priority."

The airport operator said that about 400-500 travelers spent the night there after 41 flights were canceled and 24 diverted elsewhere, and that it had set up beds and distributed water and snacks to keep people comfortable.

De Wever convened a meeting of Belgium's National Security Council, which includes the country's defense, interior, justice and foreign ministers, for Thursday morning.

In a post on social media, Interior Minister Bernard Quintin said that "the repetition of incidents linked to drones directly affects the security of our country. ... We must take action in a calm, serious and coordinated manner."

The operators of the drones in recent days have not been identified, but Defense Minister Theo Francken insisted that "this is not the work of amateurs," without elaborating. Earlier this week, Francken said that flights near the Kleine-Brogel air base on Saturday and Sunday nights appeared to be "a spying operation" aimed at "destabilizing" people. □



# Typhoon Kalmaegi leaves 85 dead, mainly in Philippine province still recovering from deadly quake

By JIM GOMEZ  
Associated Press

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — Typhoon Kalmaegi has left at least 85 people dead with 75 others missing in the central Philippines, many in widespread flooding that trapped people on their roofs and swept away cars in a hard-hit province still recovering from a deadly earthquake, officials said Wednesday. Among the dead were six people who were killed when a Philippine air force helicopter crashed in the southern province of Agusan del Sur on Tuesday.

The crew was on its way to provide humanitarian help to provinces battered by Kalmaegi, the military said. It did not give the cause of the crash.

Kalmaegi blew away from western Palawan province into the South China Sea before noon Wednesday with sustained winds of up to 130 kph (81 mph) and gusts of up to 180 kph (112 mph), according to forecasters.

## Central province hit hardest by the storm

Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro IV, deputy administrator of the Office of Civil Defense, and provincial officials said many of the



A resident returns to what remains of their home after Typhoon Kalmaegi devastated communities along the Mananga River in Talisay City, Cebu province, central Philippines, Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025.

deaths were reported in the central province of Cebu, which was pummeled by Kalmaegi on Tuesday, setting off flash floods and causing a river and other waterways to swell.

The resulting flooding engulfed residential communities, forcing startled residents to climb on their roofs, where they desperately pleaded to be rescued as the floodwaters rose, officials said.

The Philippine Red Cross received many calls from

people needing rescue in Cebu from their roofs, its secretary-general Gwendolyn Pang said Tuesday.

At least 49 drowned in floods and others died as a result of landslides and falling debris in Cebu, where 13 people were reported missing, the Office of Civil Defense said. It added that 62 others were reported missing in the central provinces of Negros Occidental and Negros Oriental which are located near Cebu.

"We did everything we can

for the typhoon but, you know, there are really some unexpected things like flash floods," Cebu Gov. Pamela Baricuatro told The Associated Press by telephone.

Caloy Ramirez, a volunteer rescuer, said the massive flooding set off by the typhoon turned an upscale riverside residential community in Cebu city on Tuesday into an unrecognizable scene of tumbled SUVs and houses in disarray.

Residents said floodwater engulfed the first floors of

their houses in just a few minutes, sending them scrambling to upper floors or roofs in panic.

"We always expect the worst and what I saw yesterday was the worst," Ramirez told The AP. He described how the faces of desperate residents would light up when they realized they were being rescued.

## Concerns grow over flood control projects

The problems may have been made worse by years of quarrying that caused clogging of nearby rivers, which overflowed, and substandard flood control projects in Cebu province, Baricuatro said.

A corruption scandal involving substandard or non-existent flood control projects across the Philippines has sparked public outrage and street protests in recent months.

Cebu, a bustling province of more than 2.4 million people, declared a state of calamity to allow authorities to disburse emergency funds more rapidly.

Cebu was still recovering from a 6.9 magnitude earthquake on Sept. 30 that left at least 79 people dead and displaced thousands when houses collapsed or were severely damaged. □

Associated Press



Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum gives a morning press conference at the National Palace in Mexico City, Monday, Nov. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexico President Claudia Sheinbaum said Wednesday that the harassment she suffered from a drunk man in the street near Mexico's seat of government was an assault on all women and that's why she

decided to press charges against him.

Mexico City Mayor Clara Brugada had announced overnight that the man had been arrested.

In a video circulating widely on social platforms, the man appeared to lean

# Mexico President Sheinbaum presses charges after street harassment

in for a kiss and touch the president's body with his hands on Tuesday. She gently pushed his hands away, maintaining a stiff smile as she turned to face him. She could be heard to say in part, "Don't worry." On Wednesday, Sheinbaum was firm in emphasizing that this was not the first time she had suffered such harassment and that the problem went far beyond the president.

"No man has the right to violate that space," she said.

"I decided to press charges because this is something that I experienced as a woman, but that we as

women experience in our country," she said. "I have experienced it before, when I wasn't president, when I was a student."

The incident immediately raised questions about the president's security, but also was a high-profile example of the sort of harassment women deal with daily across Mexico.

Sheinbaum explained that she and her team had decided to walk from the National Palace to the Education Ministry to save time. She said they could walk it in five minutes, rather than taking a 20-minute car ride. She said she would not change how she acts.

Brugada used some of Sheinbaum's own language about being elected Mexico's first woman president to emphasize that harassment of any woman — in this case Mexico's most powerful — is an assault on all women.

When Sheinbaum was elected, she said that it wasn't just her coming to power, it was all women. Brugada said that was "not a slogan, it's a commitment to not look the other way, to not allow misogyny to continue to be veiled in habits, to not accept a single additional humiliation, not another abuse, not a single femicide more." □



## The stories of “Compa Nanzi”

**(Oranjestad)—The most popular character you may hear about in the Caribbean is Anansi, known locally on Aruba as “Compa Nanzi”. Local children grew up hearing the tales of the conniving spider, and his legacy forms part of the oral narrative tradition that is common in Aruba.**

Although the stories are most popular in the Caribbean, “Compa Nanzi” is not entirely unknown globally, especially not in the West African region. Brought to the “new world” by enslaved Africans from Ghana, the historical thread of how Nanzi was introduced on Aruba follows the enslaved Africans in Curacao during the colonial era, which saw the biggest population of enslaved Africans in the Dutch Caribbean.

The stories of Compa Nanzi were a sign of hope for freedom among the slaves, who passed around different stories involving the famous spider through word of mouth, due to not being able to express their native culture in the new world. These stories were a way to not only preserve their culture, but it acted as a medium for relief during the harsh treatment to which they were subjected to.

It wasn't until the end of the nineteenth century that the stories of Nanzi were written down in different languages. However, not all stories are completely alike in every country, as is the risk of oral story telling. However, one thing will always be dominant in Compa Nanzi's stories: his sneaky ways to get what he wants!

How Nanzi fooled the king  
One day Nanzi was taking a stroll near the castle of Shon Arei, the king. He had this sudden urge to walk in. He didn't think too much about it and committed to what he had in mind. It was a warm afternoon, and the castle personnel were taking their afternoon nap. Even the soldier guarding the castle door was fast asleep, snoring so loud that his beard bounced up and down on his chin. Nanzi just slipped past him, looked back for a moment then walk right on in.

Nanzi stumbled upon the king's quarters. With all his excitement he sat in the king's throne, and put on his crown that was hanging on the side of the throne. It was very hot that day, and it wasn't long until Nanzi too fell asleep, right there on the king's throne. He was so deep in sleep and snoring so loud, that even when the king found him in his seat, Nanzi did not even notice.

Shon Arei was flabbergasted by the sight of Nanzi on his throne, wearing his crown. How disrespectful! “Soldiers, get him!” he commanded. Nanzi was sound asleep, but when the soldiers picked him up, he jumped from fright. By then though, the soldier already had him in their hold.

“Put him in a sack, stitch it up and throw him in the ocean!” the king said furiously. Two soldiers immediately entered the chamber, took the crown off Nanzi's head and pushed him in a sack.

Nanzi was terrified; it looks like this time he won't get away with his



schemes. To get to the ocean, the soldier walked a long distance, and where beginning to feel very thirsty. Luckily they passed by a pub, and decided to have a nice cold beer. They set the sack with Nanzi in it outside and went to enjoy the refreshments. Nanzi was still trembling with fear in the sack.

What is that he hears? A herd of sheep walking by?

“Compadre, listen here!” Nanzi screamed as loud as he could. The sheep herder got close to the sack. “What is this?”

“Man, there is something very beautiful in here that you can see. It's very rare and strange, but indeed, there is something so beautiful in here that you've never seen or will ever see,” Nanzi told the herder.

The herder, very dumb, believed Nanzi's word. “Let me see!” he said.

“Well if you must insist,” Nanzi said, “I'll let you take a look, but only for a quick second.” The herder opened the sack, and Nanzi immediately jumped out. Before the herder could even take a look into the sack, Nanzi pushed him in it, and the herder fell head first in.

Nanzi didn't waste any time, and closed off the sack real tight. He then picked up the herder's hat and started walking behind the traveling sheep as if nothing happened. After a little while, the soldiers headed back outside to continue their journey. As they picked up the sack, the

poor herder started screaming to let him out, but the soldiers ignored him, thinking it was Nanzi.

Shon Arei went strolling a while later. He thought to himself: “This time Nanzi could not get away with his foolishness. He probably drowned in that sack ages ago.” That is why, when he saw Nanzi walk behind the herd of sheep on the street, he was flabbergasted again. “Nanzi! Aren't you suppose to be at the bottom of the ocean floor?”

“I was, Your Majesty,” Nanzi replied. But you know what, there is so many things to see down there in the sack! Like this herd of sheep. Seeing that they had no herder, I started walking behind them and gained their trust pretty quickly. At the bottom of the ocean there are so many wonderful things, like diamonds, and bags of gold. Chests of silver and other precious stones,” Nanzi told the king.

“What is that you say?” the king was intrigued. “I want to see it too!” The king immediately demanded to his soldiers to be put in a sack and be placed in the ocean. Naturally, Shon Arei died because of this. He was never found again. Nanzi followed the soldier back to the castle, where sat once again on the late king's thrown and put his crown on. He took possession of all of Shon Arei's belongings, and lived the rest of his life as king. □

**Story and pictures are from “Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)” by Nilda Pinto.**







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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Barbara Mayo. She wrote to us saying: “Aruba to me is peacefulness and sunshine!”

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



## Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

**According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.**

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the

old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but

it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even



from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past. □



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## Aruba: The island of Aloes

**ORANJESTAD – Aloe vera, a succulent plant species, is renowned for its incredible properties for the skin. It is widely distributed and usually grows in tropical, semi-tropical and arid climates on the planet. But this plant also had a very prominent role in the history of Aruba, and its significance to the island's economy endures to this day.**

The leaves of Aloe vera contain a good amount of gel which when used topically, is great for the skin. Traditionally, Arubans use this gel to treat minor burns and other skin ailments, or just to keep skin supple and looking bright and nourished. Aside from the gel, aloe contains a bitter, yellow substance (called aloin) which is a gentle but power-

ful laxative, and it is also the origin of the industry of aloe in Aruba.

According to the website of Royal Aruba Aloe, Aloe vera was introduced in Aruba around 1840, when most of the island's inhabitants were farmers of little means. Dutch Governor Van Raders introduced the plant after it had been introduced in other islands of the Caribbean to cultivate and harvest the aloe to produce the laxative.

Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname "The Island of Aloes."

Under Commander Jan Helenus



Ferguson (1866-1871), aloe experienced a boom, which is why there is a road named after him, which goes through the aloe fields. In the 19th century, Aruba was the main supplier of aloin for laxative, which was imported abroad to the United States and Europe. The aloin from Aruba and Curaçao was known to be one of the best in the world and was more expensive, which meant that at the time, it had significant economic impact, particularly for the local farmers.

However, by the time the oil industry arrived on Aruba, it changed the labor market on Aruba, shifting away from agriculture. It would be after World War II that aloe would make a comeback. And eventually, as science learned about the amazing properties of aloe gel, the industry shifted from produc-

ing laxative to producing skin care. An interesting fact is that in 1951, the production of Aruban aloe amounted to around 30 percent of the total global production!

The impact and relevance of aloe is visible all around Aruba. While most homes will have a few plants for personal use and decoration, houses are also decorated with aloe motifs, and at some point, aloe even featured on post stamps. Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname "The Island of Aloes." And in 1955, the aloe became a part of Aruba's coat of arms, symbolizing prosperity for the island. □

**Images from the archive of the National Library of Aruba.**

## Blackstone Beach

**(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on**

**the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.**

road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family! □





## Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now



**(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.**

In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the same, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experiences by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or

coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

### Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the liter-



ary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelkboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness in the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamentu, but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in re-

sponse to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

### The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/Dera Gai (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

**Source: *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas**





CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Plains tribe  
6 Trivia fodder  
11 Egypt's Sadat  
12 Boise's state  
13 Designer's asset  
14 Eternal City resident  
15 Fencing sword  
17 Sty resident  
18 Not too bad to tolerate  
22 Avenue liners  
23 Skewed views  
27 Honolulu hello  
29 Treasure stash  
30 Swindle  
32 Pine or palm  
33 Preference, informally  
35 Diet no-no  
38 Realize  
39 Suspect's defense  
41 Sun-powered  
45 Diner pages  
46 Packing box

DOWN

- 47 Tests  
48 Really stoked  
1 "Krazy —"  
2 One — million  
3 Hurt responses  
4 Turning point  
5 Corn pancake  
6 Like a cabin at night  
7 Commotion  
8 Summer spot for some  
9 Bangkok native  
10 Ditty

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | R | O | W | S |   | P | E | R | C | Y |
| R | E | M | I | T |   | A | T | A | L | E |
| E | L | E | N | A |   | N | A | D | I | A |
| W | I | L | D | L | Y |   | I | Q | S |   |
| E | V | E |   | L | A | S | H | O | U | T |
| L | E | T |   | I | N | C | A | S | E |   |
|   |   |   | A | O | K | A | Y |   |   |   |
|   | F | E | N | N | E | L |   | P | E | W |
| C | O | U | N | S | E | L |   | O | N | E |
| O | U | R |   | S | I | E | R | R | A |   |
| A | L | E | R | T |   | O | P | T | I | N |
| L | U | K | A | S |   | N | I | E | C | E |
| S | P | A | N | K |   | S | C | R | O | D |

- 16 Flow out  
18 Pulsate  
19 Singer  
20 In a frenzy  
21 Soil  
24 Ticked off  
25 At any time  
26 Beholds  
28 Hollywood greeting  
31 Convent resident  
34 Puccini opera  
35 Renown  
36 Baseball's Rodriguez  
37 Singer Turner  
40 Lazy fellow  
42 Pet perch  
43 Had breakfast  
44 Stop color

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |    | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 |    |    |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    |    |
| 13 |    |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 15 |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |
| 18 | 19 | 20 |    |    |    |    | 21 |    |    |    |
| 22 |    |    |    |    | 23 |    |    | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 |    |    |    | 28 |    | 29 |    |    |    |    |
| 30 |    |    |    |    | 31 |    | 32 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 33 |    |    | 34 |    |    |    |    |
| 35 | 36 | 37 |    | 38 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 39 |    |    | 40 |    |    | 41 |    | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 |    |    |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |    |    |
| 47 |    |    |    |    |    | 48 |    |    |    |    |

11-13

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-13 CRYPTOQUOTE

GLQ'U VLK ALPR QRZ VLFO

MQ UJR CNAA? MU BNORW BR

ZNQU UL IKV WSJLLA

WKXXAMRW. — QLFN RXJFLQ

Cryptoquote: IT LOOKED LIKE THE WORLD WAS COVERED IN A COBBLER CRUST OF BROWN SUGAR AND CINNAMON. — SARAH ADDISON ALLEN

Cruise ship Schedule: Nov. 2 - 8 2025

|     |    |                      | ARR   | DEPT  | BERTH | CALLS |
|-----|----|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SUN | 02 | FREEWINDS - Dept.    | ****  | 22.30 | E     | -     |
| TUE | 04 | SERENADE OF THE SEAS | 08.00 | 23.00 | B     | 1     |
|     |    | CARNIVAL VISTA       | 13.00 | 23.00 | C     | 1     |
|     |    | OASIS OF THE SEAS    | 08.00 | 23.00 | I     | 1     |
| WED | 05 | EMERALD PRINCESS     | 09.00 | 18.00 | B     | 1     |
|     |    | CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE | 08.00 | 23.00 | C     | 1     |
|     |    | FREEWINDS            | 06.00 | ****  | E     | 1     |
| SAT | 08 | ROYAL CLIPPER        | 09.00 | 18.00 | C     | 1     |

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 8 | 4 |   |   |   | 9 |   |
| 5 | 9 |   | 3 |   | 7 | 2 |   | 4 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |   |   |
| 2 |   |   | 8 |   |   | 6 |   |   |
|   |   | 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 7 | 9 | 5 |   | 4 | 3 |   |
| 9 |   |   | 7 |   |   |   | 2 | 1 |
| 7 |   | 1 |   |   |   |   | 4 | 6 |
| 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 7 | 8 |

Difficulty: ★★★

11/6

Answer to previous puzzle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 6 |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 |
| 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| 4 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 7 |
| 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 6 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 2 |

Difficulty: ★★★

11/5



# Why Index Funds and ETFs Are Good for Retirees

By Christine Benz of Morningstar

Older adults likely began their investing careers before exchange-traded funds existed and have stuck with traditional mutual funds.

But as retirement approaches, many investors look at their portfolios with a fresh set of eyes and make adjustments.

And the more I work with in-retirement portfolios, the more I like ETFs and traditional index funds for several reasons:

## 1) Index Funds and ETFs Lend Themselves Well to Cash Flow Extraction

For retirees who are using income distributions from their investments to help cover living expenses, the small fees levied by index funds and ETFs ensure that more of those payouts flow to them.

For total-return-oriented retirees who are rebalancing (trimming appreciated securities) to meet living expenses, index funds and ETFs also work well. These are typically pure plays on a given asset class, making it simple to identify which assets to scale back to deliver the retiree's cash flow and restore the portfolio to its target asset allocation.

## 2) Maintenance Is a Cinch

In addition to making it easy to extract cash flows, index funds and ETFs also do well in limiting a retiree's oversight obligations.



This Jan. 22, 2020, file photo shows the likeness of Benjamin Franklin on \$100 bills in Dallas.

Associated Press

Many retirees have better things to do than monitor news about their holdings. Retirees employing index funds do need to watch their total portfolios' asset-allocation mixes, but most core-type index funds and ETFs change little on an ongoing basis. Moreover, because index-tracking ETFs and funds track a benchmark rather than trying to beat it, manager changes matter much less than with active funds.

## 3) It's Not Hard to Control a Portfolio's Risk Level With Index Funds and ETFs

Many retirees prize risk controls, and people sometimes say that active funds "earn their keep" in down markets. While mild-mannered active equity funds, especially those focused on valuation and quality, might help lower a portfolio's overall risk, the most dependable way to reduce a portfolio's loss potential is by adjusting the stock/bond mix, not the underlying holdings.

## 4) The Tax Efficiency Stakes May Be Higher

Taxes are another area where index funds and ETFs shine in retirement. Equity index funds and especially ETFs are incredibly tax-efficient relative to their actively managed counterparts.

Managing for tax efficiency is important at every life stage, but most important in retirement. □



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Eagle: Tel.587 9011

### San Nicolas:

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

## EMERGENCY

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Police         | 100      |
| Oranjestad     | 527 3140 |
| Noord          | 527 3200 |
| Sta. Cruz      | 527 2900 |
| San Nicolas    | 584 5000 |
| Police Tipline | 11141    |
| Ambulancia     | 911      |
| Fire Dept.     | 115      |
| Red Cross      | 582 2219 |

## TAXI SERVICES

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Taxi Tas         | 587 5900 |
| Prof. Taxi       | 588 0035 |
| Taxi D.T.S.      | 587 2300 |
| Taxi Serv. Aruba | 583 3232 |
| A1 Taxi Serv.    | 280 2828 |

## TRAVEL INFO

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Aruba Airport     | 524 2424 |
| American Airlines | 582 2700 |
| Avianca           | 588 0059 |
| Jet Blue          | 588 2244 |
| Surinam           | 582 7896 |

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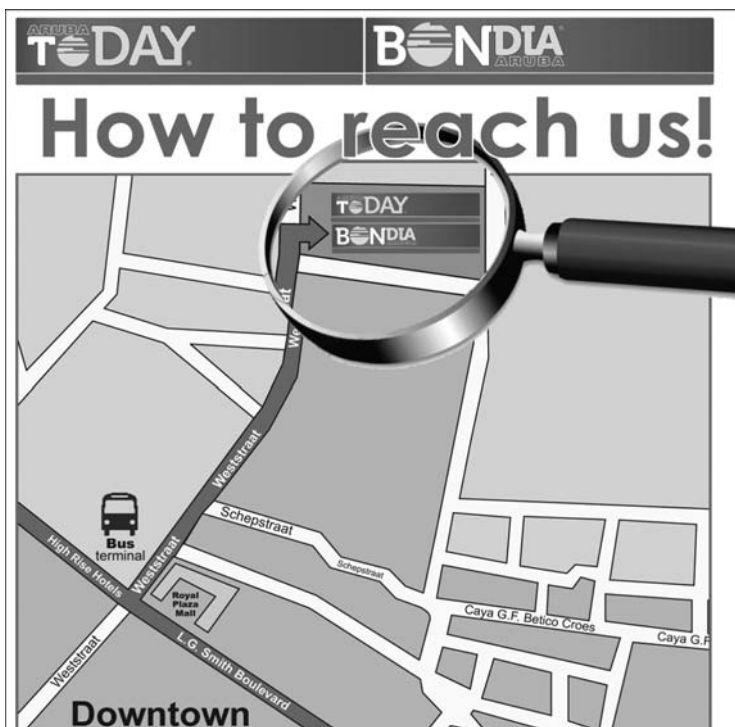
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS





# Bad Company, one of rock's supergroups, pushes the doors open at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Bad Company singer-songwriter Paul Rodgers treasures one of his last phone calls with guitarist Mick Ralphs. It was to deliver the news that, at long last, they'd been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

"I said to him, 'Do you remember when we were looking for a band name and we called each other with silly names?' And then I just called him up one day and I said, 'Bad Company' and he dropped the phone and he said, 'Oh yeah, that's it. That's the name,'" says Rodgers.

"I said, 'From then, it's a long way, but it seems like we just blinked our eyes a couple of times and here we are at the Hall of Fame.' So at least I was able to tell him that." Ralphs died in June, just weeks after learning the induction news.

Rodgers and drummer Simon Kirke are the last surviving original members of the British supergroup that crafted such arena-rock staples as "Feel Like Makin' Love," "Can't Get Enough" and "Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy." They will be part of the celebrations Saturday at the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles, which will stream live on Disney+. ABC will air a prime-time special on Jan. 1, available on Hulu



**Howard Leese, from left, Paul Rodgers, and Mick Ralphs, of the classic rock band Bad Company, perform in Bethlehem, Pa., on July 29, 2013.**

the next day.

"The fans have just been so great throughout the years. We feel like we're celebrated, but it's just not been stamped officially. That's the only difference," says Rodgers.

## Who else made it?

Bad Company will join rock legend Chubby Checker, late soul singer Joe Cocker, pop icon Cyndi Lauper, hip-hop pioneers Outkast, rock duo the White Stripes and grunge masters Soundgarden in the class of '25. Salt-N-Pepa, the first female rap act to achieve platinum status, and the late

singer-songwriter Warren Zevon will get in via the Musical Influence Award. The late record producer Thom Bell, pianist Nicky Hopkins and bassist Carol Kaye will each get the Musical Excellence Award.

Chappell Roan and The Killers will be special guests, as will Elton John, Olivia Rodrigo, Doja Cat, Questlove, Twenty One Pilots, Missy Elliott, Raye, Beck, Brandi Carlile, David Letterman, Flea, Iggy Pop, J.I.D, Killer Mike, Maxwell, Sleepy Brown, Taylor Momsen and Teddy Swims.

More stars attending will in-

clude Avril Lavigne, Bryan Adams, Donald Glover, En Vogue, Feist, Janelle Monáe, Jim Carrey, Joe Perry, Mick Fleetwood, Mike McCready, Nancy Wilson and Nathaniel Rateliff.

Rodgers this month begged off performing at the Rock Hall "to prioritize my health," but he said Kirke will be there and "some outstanding musicians."

## Gritty, bluesy rock

Formed in 1973 in London, Bad Company brought together Rodgers and Kirke from the band Free, Ralphs from Mott the Hoople and bassist Boz Burrell fresh out

of King Crimson. The group was managed by the legendary Peter Grant and signed to Led Zeppelin's Swan Song label.

"We had everything we needed," says Rodgers. "You can't really have a better start than that for a fledgling band. We had the music. We had Atlantic Records behind us. It was a magic roller coaster ride, actually."

Kirke said Bad Company appeared on a music scene that was then dominated by a lot of glam and glitter think David Bowie, Queen, T. Rex and Gary Glitter and went back to basics.

"When we got together, I think the communal goal was we just wanted to do something that was stripped-down, right to the point, gritty and a little cheeky, a bit of fun," he says.

Right out of the gate, the band had killer songs in their pockets. Ralphs had "Can't Get Enough," "Movin' On" and "Ready for Love" ready. Rodgers had "Rock Steady" and, with Ralphs, "Seagull." And Rodgers and Kirke wrote the song "Bad Company," with the lyrics "Bad company/'Til the day I die." The band's self-titled 1974 debut album hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200, going five-times platinum. □

# Helen Mirren will receive the Golden Globes' Cecil B. DeMille award



**Helen Mirren arrives at the 81st Golden Globe Awards on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024, at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Calif.**  
Associated Press

By **The Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Helen Mirren has portrayed multiple queens, a prime minister, a detective, "Barbie" narrator and many other roles in more than a half-century of acting. Her latest: Golden Globe lifetime achievement honoree.

Mirren will receive the 2026 Cecil B. DeMille Award in January, the Golden Globes announced Wednesday.

"Helen Mirren is a force of nature and her career is nothing short of extraordinary," Helen Hoehne, Golden Globes president, said in a statement. "Her transcendent performances and commitment to her craft continue to inspire generations of artists and audiences alike." This time, the award will be presented during a new annual prime time special, "Golden Eve," honoring re-

cipients of both the DeMille Award and the Carol Burnett Award, which honors achievement in television. That special will air Jan. 8 on CBS and stream on Paramount+.

The main Golden Globes ceremony is on Jan. 11, hosted for the second time by Nikki Glaser. An Oscar winner for "The Queen," her 2006 portrayal of Queen Elizabeth II, Mirren has also won three Golden Globes for work in both film and TV. She is also an Emmy, SAG, BAFTA and Tony-winning actor. She was named a Dame of the British Empire in 2003 in acknowledgement of her artistic achievements.

Mirren, 80, joins a storied group of DeMille Award recipients since 1952, including Sidney Poitier, Meryl Streep, Barbra Streisand, Viola Davis, Morgan Freeman, Tom Hanks and Jeff Bridges. □



# Nneka Ogwumike signs with new women's basketball league Project B as WNBA contract talks persist

By **DOUG FEINBERG**  
**AP Basketball Writer**

Former WNBA MVP Nneka Ogwumike has signed a contract with Project B, the first player who is known to have joined the latest professional women's basketball league ahead of play that is expected to begin in Europe and Asia next winter.

Ogwumike, like other players in the league, will get an undisclosed salary and equity stake in the league. Project B officials have said the 66 players who they want for their league the format calls for six teams of 11 women each will receive larger salaries than those currently offered by the WNBA.

While the financial specifics haven't been disclosed, the potential of more lucrative compensation comes at an important moment for women's professional basketball. As interest in the sport has soared in recent years, the WNBA and players union are locked in tense negotiations over a new collective bargaining agreement with much of the dispute centered on salary and revenue sharing. In an interview with The Associated Press, the 35-year-



Seattle Storm forward Nneka Ogwumike (3) plays against the Las Vegas Aces in Game 2 of a WNBA basketball first-round playoff game Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

old Ogwumike said the compensation package was key to her signing with Project B.

"It's not something that's usually offered to us, and by us, I mean women athletes," Ogwumike said. "So, for there to be an entry level of equity across the board was eye-catching. It's something that I stand for, obviously."

The 35-year-old Ogwumike hopes the equity stake will

be the standard for leagues going forward. She's currently involved in negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement with the WNBA, serving as the union president. The WNBA and its players recently agreed to extend their CBA for another 30 days through November, but the sides remain far apart on terms for a new deal.

Project B plans to begin play in November 2026,

with the inaugural season running through April 2027. That would not interfere with the typical WNBA calendar.

Project B would give Ogwumike the opportunity to essentially play year-round again, something she did before when she spent winters in Russia and Poland. She hasn't played overseas since 2019.

"There's so many different opportunities for play-

ers outside of (the WNBA) and that's always been the case," Ogwumike said. "This is just another one of those opportunities and I know that a lot of players are doing what they can to ensure that they can maximize on the short time that they have in their playing careers. This is my chance to be able to do that."

Ogwumike stopped playing for most of the year after COVID disrupted the sports world.

Project B, which intends to stream its games, will see players competing on a traveling circuit just like golf, tennis and auto racing.

"We want premiere cities and our goal is to create an F1-style TV event," said Alana Beard, Project B's chief basketball officer. "There's a tournament in each city and at the end of each tournament there is going to be a champion and that all leads up to us potentially crowning the champion of the world."

Beard said that many top WNBA players have also signed on, though did not disclose any other names. There's also talk of having a men's league as part of Project B, but those details are not finalized. □

## McIlroy calls LIV's switch to 72-hole tournaments a 'peculiar move'

**ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Rory McIlroy has described LIV Golf's decision to expand its events to 72 holes as "peculiar."

The Saudi-funded breakaway circuit will align itself more with golf's traditional tours by moving from three rounds to four next year.

The format switch could boost LIV's bid to be recognized by the Official World Golf Ranking, which is critical because the four majors use its listing to help determine their fields.

The OWGR rejected LIV's request for world ranking points when the league started, mainly over concerns about it being a closed shop of the same 54 players all year, except for alternates replacing injured

players, and that team competition could affect the integrity of the individual competition since it was based on the same scores. McIlroy has been outspoken about LIV's disruption of the golf world, so was asked for his view of the change to 72 holes when speaking Wednesday at his news conference ahead of the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship.

"I think it's a peculiar move," McIlroy said, "because I think they could have got ranking points with three rounds. I don't think three rounds vs. four rounds is what was holding them back."

"It certainly puts them more in line with traditional golf tournaments than what we've all done," he added.

"It brings them back into not really being a destructor and sort of is falling more in line with what everyone else does. But if that's what they felt they needed to do to get the ranking points, I guess that's what they had to do."

McIlroy questioned how many ranking points will be on offer at LIV Golf events. "Because their strength of fields are going to be so weak because a lot of the guys have fallen already in the rankings because they have not had ranking points for so long, I don't know if the ranking points are really going to benefit them," McIlroy said.

"Yeah, it will be interesting to see how it plays out." McIlroy is playing the Abu Dhabi tournament for a

12th time. He has nine top-three finishes but has never won.

The Northern Irishman tops the season-long Race to Dubai standings with two

events to play, and a win this week would push him closer to a seventh title in what was the Order of Merit one off Colin Montgomerie's record haul. □



Rory McIlroy watches his shot on the 12th hole in the third round of the CJ Cup at Summit Club in Las Vegas on Saturday, October 16, 2021.

Associated Press



# Bill Belichick among 9 coaching semifinalists for Pro Football Hall of Fame's 2026 class

By **JOSH DUBOW**  
**AP Pro Football Writer**

Six-time Super Bowl-winning head coach Bill Belichick and four other head coaches who won Super Bowls are among the nine semifinalists in the coach category for the 2026 class for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Belichick is in his first year of eligibility after rule changes put in place last year requiring coaches only to be out of the NFL for one full season before being considered for the Hall.

Two-time Super Bowl champion coaches Tom Coughlin, Mike Shanahan and George Seifert also advanced, along with another Super Bowl winner in Mike Holmgren.



North Carolina head coach Bill Belichick calls a timeout during the first half of an NCAA college football game against Syracuse, Friday, Oct. 31, 2025, in Syracuse, N.Y.

Associated Press

The other coaches in the running are Buddy Parker, who won two NFL titles with Detroit in the pre-Super Bowl era, Chuck Knox, Dan Reeves and Marty Schottenheimer.

A blue-ribbon committee will cut the list down to one finalist. Holmgren earned that spot last year but fell short in the final vote. The coach will be grouped with one contributor and three seniors candidates. Between one and three of those five finalists will make it to the Hall based on getting at least 80% of the votes from the full committee.

Belichick was the architect of the New England Patriots dynasty in the 2000s, leading the franchise to six Super Bowl titles and three other appearances in the game during an 18-year span from 2001-18. Belichick's 333 wins in the regular season and playoffs with New England and Cleveland are the second most to Don Shula's 347.

Belichick also was one of the game's top defensive assistants before taking over New England, winning two more Super Bowls as defensive coordinator for the New York Giants. Belichick's tenure in New England ended following the 2023 season and he is now coaching in college at North Carolina.

Belichick, Coughlin, Shanahan and Seifert are among the 14 coaches who have won multiple Super Bowls. Nine of those coaches are already in, with Andy Reid still active as the other.

Coughlin coached 20 years for Jacksonville and the New York Giants. He led the Jaguars to the AFC title game in their second season as a franchise and back again in the 1999 season. But his greatest success came after taking over the Giants in 2004.

He led the franchise to a Super Bowl title in the 2007 season when New York upset the undefeated Patriots and then knocked off Belichick, Tom Brady and New England again four years later. □



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